

English Vocab for the 2016-2017 School Year

#1 Identity

- a. the qualities, beliefs, or traits that make a person or group different from others
- b. Noun
- c. When I visited the town where my parents grew up, I felt more in touch with my identity than I ever have before.

#2 Self (n/a)

- a. The evaluation of oneself as an individual, regardless of social position or standing
- b. Noun
- c. It was not until I started reading other people's autobiographies that I started thinking about the "self" and how it related to me.

#3 Feeble

- a. Lacking in force or effectiveness; weak
- b. adjective
- c. My brother always gave feeble excuses for why he could not do homework each night.

#4 Opportunist

- a. a person who takes advantage of a situation for personal gain, often by ignoring whether it is the right or wrong thing to do
- b. noun
- c. Harry accused Kellen of being an opportunist after Kellen kept a ten-dollar bill he saw another kid drop on the ground.

#5 Ethical

- a. something that relates to moral principles or beliefs
- b. adjective
- c. The doctor was questioning what the ethical choice was when faced with a dying patient who was asking to cut off all medicine.

#6 Dilemma

- a. a difficult situation or problem, often with two equally undesirable solutions
- b. noun
- c. Bobby faced the dilemma after seeing his friend cheat on the exam.

#7 Commemorate

- a. to pay tribute to or show respect for someone or something in a ceremony
- b. Verb
- c. The Redskins commemorated the anniversary of their last Super Bowl win by bringing the players on that team to the field during halftime.

#8 Anecdote

- a. a short, amusing or interesting story about a real incident or person
- b. Noun
- c. When I started at a new school, I heard a lot of anecdotes from students about events from previous years there.

#9 Marked (“mark”)

- a. clearly noticeable or evident
- b. adjective
- c. There was a marked difference in the candidate’s debate performance after he received so much criticism in the first debate.

#10 Aloof

- a. Not friendly or warm; distant and detached
- b. adjective
- c. John was aloof at the party, choosing instead to play on his phone for most of the night.

#11: Defer

- a) To put off or delay
- b) Verb
- c) The person deferred admission to college for a year, so he started school in the Fall of 2011.

#12: Fester

- a) To rot or wither
- b) Verb
- c) The wound festered on Jim’s foot for weeks after he punctured it on a nail.

#13 Disheveled

- a) Untidy; messy (usually about a person's hair, clothing, or appearance)
- b) Adjective
- c) Cynthia looked completely disheveled as she arrived home from a very long day at work.

#14 Indifferent

- a) Having no particular interest or sympathy; unconcerned
- b) Adjective
- c) I watched the football game so I could be with my friends; I was indifferent about who would win the game.

#15 Rights

- a) freedoms that cannot be denied to any person
- b) noun
- c) "I know my rights, and I want a lawyer!" he said to the detective.

#16 Prejudice

- a) an opinion about a group, a race, or an individual
- b) noun
- c) The taxi driver was accused of prejudice when he ignored a Latino hailing a cab and picked up the white person standing right next to him instead.

#17 Eccentric (p. 10 -- TKAM)

- a. unusual; peculiar; unconventional
- b. adjective
- c. My neighbor is a bit eccentric; he owns twelve cats, only wears mismatched shoes, and talks with a British accent when he grew up in Missouri.

#18 Malevolent (p. 10 -- TKAM)

- a. having or showing a wish to do evil to others
- b. Adjective
- c. Professor Snape looked at Harry with a malevolent glare when Harry defeated Malfoy once again.

#19 Assuage (p. 3 -- TKAM)

- a) to put an end to whatever bothered/worried you
- b) verb
- c) I assuaged my thirst when I bought myself a Gatorade.

#20 Fruitless (p. 43 -- TKAM)

- a) not achieving the desired results; useless
- b) adjective
- c) Despite having friends in the movie business, John's pursuit of acting was ultimately fruitless.